



OZARK REGION

MISSOURI CAREER GRADES

SEPTEMBER 2022

Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Projected to have the most
annual total job openings

over 5,100

Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Most grade A and B
annual openings

over 4,600

Legal Occupations

Grade A and B Jobs
Concentration

100%

Career Grades are a tool to help make comparisons between occupations. Each occupation is assigned a letter grade from A+ to F based on outlook over the next decade. **Grades are based on a combination of projected total job openings, projected percent growth, and average wages.** Occupations with a grade of A or A+ have above average results in at least two of the three variables, while occupations with a grade of B or B+ have above average results in at least one of the three variables.

The Ozark region is projected to have over 30,000 annual job openings through 2030. The vast majority (98%) of these openings are in A, B, and C grade occupations. In general, higher graded occupations earn more and have higher growth rates. Grade A occupations earn an average wage that is 32 percent higher than the average wage for all occupations, and are projected to grow almost twice as fast as the average growth rate.

Annual Job Openings and Wages by Career Grades

Grade A

4,112 Job Openings
\$57,766 Average Wage

Grade B

17,003 Job Openings
\$43,856 Average Wage

Grade C

8,286 Job Openings
\$38,254 Average Wage

Top Outlook Occupation Groups

Major Occupation Group	Total Openings	A & B Openings	A & B Concentration
Food Preparation & Serving Related	5,139	4,603	90%
Transportation & Material Moving	3,573	3,341	94%
Sales & Related	3,914	2,417	62%
Healthcare Support	1,655	1,310	79%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	1,316	1,233	94%
Office & Administrative Support	3,765	1,218	32%
Management	1,060	1,006	95%
Business & Financial Operations	1,101	980	89%
Construction & Extraction	1,050	710	68%
Personal Care & Service	967	690	71%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	1,184	650	55%
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	1,031	634	61%
Production	1,223	457	37%
Protective Service	538	411	76%
Computer & Mathematical	448	383	85%

Ozark Top Grade Jobs

Now Typically requires short-term on-the-job training, little to no experience, and/or a high school diploma

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2020-2030 Growth Rate	Average Wages
B	Fast Food & Counter Workers 🔥	1,838	17.4%	\$22,793
B	Retail Salespersons 🔥	1,254	8.8%	\$30,956
B+	Waiters & Waitresses 🔥	1,193	23.2%	\$22,877
B+	Stockers & Order Fillers 🔥	966	21.6%	\$28,794
B	Customer Service Representatives 🔥	804	8.0%	\$32,783
B	Home Health & Personal Care Aides 🔥	688	17.5%	\$25,013
B+	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand 🔥	533	19.2%	\$31,795
B	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners 🔥	514	11.0%	\$27,407
B	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners 🔥	398	14.2%	\$24,274
B+	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	321	15.9%	\$28,598

Next Typically requires non-degree certificate, associate degree, apprenticeship, some experience, or moderate- to long-term training

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2020-2030 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers 🔥	914	15.6%	\$48,577
A	Cooks, Restaurant	725	52.0%	\$27,386
B	Nursing Assistants 🔥	540	5.7%	\$29,855
A	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation & Serving Workers	307	24.6%	\$32,755
B	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General 🔥	305	14.2%	\$36,149
B	First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers 🔥	286	0.4%	\$47,243
A	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing 🔥	235	12.5%	\$61,727
B	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	199	14.6%	\$43,128
B	First-Line Supervisors of Office & Administrative Support Workers	189	1.7%	\$60,792
B+	Sales Representatives of Services	176	12.7%	\$52,729

Later Typically requires a bachelor's degree or higher

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2020-2030 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A+	General & Operations Managers 🔥	504	14.9%	\$83,094
B+	Registered Nurses 🔥	376	7.5%	\$60,159
B+	Accountants & Auditors	222	11.6%	\$55,771
B+	Project Mngmt. Specialists & Business Op. Specialists, All Other 🔥	152	9.4%	\$66,575
A	Software Developers & Quality Assurance Analysts & Testers 🔥	140	23.1%	\$69,584
B	Substance Abuse, Behavioral Disorder, & Mental Health Counselors	133	11.9%	\$31,009
B	Human Resources Specialists 🔥	121	13.1%	\$50,111
B+	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	112	27.3%	\$50,091
A	Management Analysts	100	19.2%	\$71,591
B	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	97	8.3%	\$49,702

🔥 Flame icon indicates occupations with high numbers of online job ad postings in 2021.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program. Occupational projections developed by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). Lightcast™. Job opening and growth rate data is based on sum of published employment.

This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the US Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy continued availability or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.